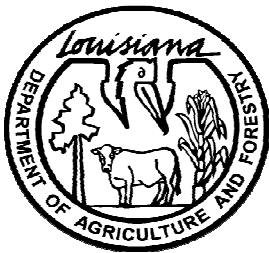


LOUISIANA

BOLL WEEVIL TALK



MIKE STRAIN DVM, COMMISSIONER

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June 25, 2009

TO: LOUISIANA COTTON PRODUCERS

This newsletter finds us well into the 2009 cotton season. Despite the heavy rains we received early on in some areas, we have completed mapping; it looks like we will have approximately 220,000 acres of cotton. We continue to be very aggressive with our trapping protocol. Traps were placed around 2008 fields that were not planted back to cotton this year. These traps were monitored until no weevils were caught for three weeks. Traps have been placed around new fields and are being run as scheduled. The Red River Zone continues to be weevil free and weevil numbers are considerably lower in northeast Louisiana than this time last year. Below you will find trapping reports for the weeks indicated, along with the reduction from the corresponding weeks in 2008.

Work Unit	5/11/09	5/18/09	5/25/09	6/1/09	6/8/09	6/15/09
Jonesville	14	8	8	9	9	0
Winnsboro	0	0	2	5	4	0
Monroe	9	15	9	25	5	3
Oak Grove	2	4	3	3	3	0
Total Weevils	25	27	22	42	21	3
Reduction from 2008	82.1%	92.9%	97%	91.9%	86.4%	98.4%

As a quality control measure, we will be using marked weevils again this year especially in areas where weevil numbers have been consistently low. If you see weevils in traps where previously there have been none, these may be marked weevils; however, we urge you to contact your field unit supervisor if you have any concerns.

Pinhead square applications are being made to any field where even a single weevil is caught. We will continue this single weevil threshold throughout the season.

As we near our goal of total eradication, it is critical that every cotton field has functional traps. If you are aware of any field that does not have boll weevil traps, please contact your field unit supervisor or your local Boll Weevil Eradication Program office. Traps that are on the ground are not as effective as those that are standing, so we urge you to be careful with our traps. If you see traps that are down on your farm or in your area, please let your field unit supervisor know or call your local office.

ACCORDING TO BOLL WEEVIL LAW, R.S. 3:1613(B), ASSESSMENTS SHALL BE BASED UPON THE NUMBER OF ACRES OF COTTON PLANTED...”. ASSESSMENTS WILL BE COLLECTED ON EVERY ACRE PLANTED TO COTTON. THIS INCLUDES COTTON THAT IS PLANTED AND FAILED, REGARDLESS OF THE STAGE AT WHICH THE COTTON FAILED. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS, PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT (225) 952-8105.

Assessments are to be paid at your local FSA office **no later than July 15** or at Final Certification. The assessment for 2009 is **\$6 per acre**. A late fee of \$1.50 per acre will be due on all assessments that are not paid by July 15 or at Final Certification, as determined by the FSA office.

Requests for waiver of assessments on failed cotton must be submitted in writing to one of the Boll Weevil Eradication Program offices no later than August 1 of the current crop year and must include the following:

- 1. Name of the producer
- 2. Field number(s)
- 3. Number of acres for which the waiver is requested
- 4. Date the cotton failed
- 5. Reason the cotton failed
- 6. Certification that all cotton plants were destroyed prior to July 15

The Boll Weevil Eradication Commission reviews all requests and rules accordingly.

REMINDERS

- **Lower weevil numbers → reduced number of aerial applications.**
- **Lower weevil numbers → increased trap importance.**
- **Maintain turn rows for trapping and mistblower applications.**
- **Destroy stalks as soon as possible after harvest.**
- **All cotton equipment coming into Louisiana MUST be inspected by USDA or the state of origin.**
- **All cotton equipment being moved into the Red River Zone from within Louisiana MUST be inspected by LDAF personnel.**

We appreciate your continued support of the Boll Weevil Eradication Program as we work to make Louisiana weevil free.

Marc Bordelon, Director
Boll Weevil Eradication Program

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN DVM, COMMISSIONER
BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM OFFICES
BATON ROUGE OFFICE
(225) 952-8105 OR (225) 952-8031

Woodworth Office
318-487-5770
515 Forestry Rd.
Woodworth, LA

Haughton Office
318-949-3225
740 Covington Rd.
Haughton, LA

Jonesville Office
318-339-7642
1685 M.L. King Dr.
Jonesville, LA

Winnsboro Office
318-435-2185
150 Guice Rd.
Winnsboro, LA

Monroe Office
318-345-7595
750 Hwy 80 East
Monroe, LA

Oak Grove Office
318-428-0116
10356 Hwy 17
Oak Grove, LA